THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The total exports of electronic during the last three years are given below:—

Year	Rs. in crores
1992-93	901
1993-94	1078
1994-95	1452 (Provisional)

Source: (Electronics & Computer Software EPC).

(b) Ministry of Commerce has sponsored the Electronic & Computer Software Export Promotion Council for promoting exports of electronics and computer software.

(c) Presently, no such proposal is under contemplation.

Import of Pulses under OGL

5850. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import pulses under OGL; and

(b) the estimated quantity of pulses proposed to be imported under OGL and the availability of the same within the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Under the Export and Import Policy, 1992—97 (as amended upto 31st March, 1995), import of pulses, except toxic pulses, is permitted freely by all persons. Therefore, the quantity of pulses proposed to be imported can not be estimated.

Removing Curbs on Coffee Marketing

5851. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to scrap most of the curbs on Coffee marketing and allowing small growers freedom to sell all their produce directly at home or abroad; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Govt. have further liberalised the Coffee Marketting System by allowing 100% Free Sale Quota (FSQ) to small growers having holding size below 10 hectres and to other registered growers upto 70% FSQ under which the growers have the freedom to sell their produce both in domestic and export markets. This is expected to give growers fair prices and encourage them to re-invest in their plantations. More investment will give an impetus to productions and productivity.

Import of Edible Oil

5852. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred Question 802 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to continue edible oil import during 1995-96;

(b) the total quantum of edible oil proposed to be imported during 1995-96; and

(c) the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) under the current Export and Import Policy, 1992—97 (as amended upto 31st March, 1995) all edible oils excluding Coconut Oil, Palm Kernel Oil, RBD Palm Oil and RBD Palm Stearin are freely importable. Therefore, it will not be possible to indicate any projection of import for the current year. However, State Trading Corporation (STC) has been authorised

to import 1.5 lakh tonnes of RBD Pallmolein during 1995-96 for supply through the Public Distribution System.

Monitoring of ITPO Functions

5853. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government are taking to carefully monitor the functioning of Indian Trade Promotion Organisation;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Pragati Maidan grounds are not well maintained in recent years; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to improve the Pragati Maidan grounds used for exhibitions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A Memorandum of understanding fixing Financial and Physical targets for achievement by India Trade Promotion Organisation is signed between ITPO and Ministry of Commerce every year. The performance of ITPO is monitored by the Government on the basis of evaluation of paramenters devised in the Memorandum of understanding.

(b) No, Sir, Every effort is made to ensure that Pragati Maidan is maintained to meet the requirements for holing international level exhibitions.

(c) The improvement of facilities at Pragati Maidan is a continuous process. Number of improvements have been done in the past. ITPO proposes to take up following measures:—

(i) Construction of additional air conditioned exhibition halls.

(ii) Modification of Indira's Vision Pavilion into a modern conference complex.

(iii) Provision of additional escalator in Hall of Technology.

(iv) Replacement of ordinary flooring with heavy duty dewatered vacuum flooring in Halls No.2,3,4,5,6, & 7

(v) Replacement of old transformers and other equipment in Electric Sub Stations.

(vi) Renovation of toilets in exhibition halls all over Pragati Maidan Complex.

(vii) Construction of underground water pump and tubewell etc. for augmentation of water supply.

(viii) Providing passenger lifts in Hall of Special Displays.

(ix) Furnishing of Auditormum and providing simultaneous translation system in Hall of Special Displays.

(x) Replacement of old and worn out water supply and sewer lines which were laid during 1970—72.

(xi) Construction of new Entrance at Gate No. 2.

(xii) Improving & arranging parking facilities.

Simplification of Procedures by DGFT to Facilitate Exports

5854. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procedures at the Office of the Director-General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) are being simplified to facilitate exports;

(b) if so, what changes have been announced in 1995-96;

(c) whether deliberate delays are being monitored in the DGFT; and

(d) details of such monitoring for improvement of DGFT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.